

***Acanthus ilicifolius* L.**

Family: Acanthaceae

Kannada Name: Hole chulli

An erect littoral shrub. Leaves up to 15 x 6 cm, oblong pinnatifid, margins with few large spines, glabrous, petiole up to 1cm long with 2 stipules-like spines at base. Inflorescence a terminal spike, up to 16 cm long. Flowers crowded; bracts and bracteoles large ovate, mucronate. Corolla blue. Capsule c. 2.5 cm long ovoid, compressed, 4-seeded. Seeds compressed, orbicular.

Commonly found in Mangrove regions.

Flowering: March –June

Uses: Leaves are used for fomentation in neuralgia and rheumatism; also as expectorant. Roots used in curing asthma, paralysis, leucorrhoea and debility.



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